

Message Text

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21

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAB-01 SAM-01 SSM-03 OMB-01 /075 W

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R 151210Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2056

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EG, LE

SUBJECT: EGYPTIAN PRESS ON LEBANESE SITUATION

1. AKHBAR APRIL 15 CARRIES BANNER HEADLINE " AGREEMENT BETWEEN SYRIA AND ISRAEL AGAINST LEBANON". CITING AFP AND UPI SOURCES IN TEL AVIV AND BEIRUT, AKHBAR STATES THAT ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER HAS REVEALED EXISTENCE OF "RED LINE" RUNNING EAST-WEST ACROSS SOUTHERN LEBANON. ACCORDING TO AKHBAR, ISRAELIS AND SYRIANS IN ACCORD THAT SYRIAN TROOPS MAY HAVE FREE HAND IN LEBANESE SITUATION PROVIDED THEY DO NOT CROSS SOUTH OF RED LINE TOWARD LEBANESE -ISRAELI BORDER. STORY STATES THAT AGREEMENT BETWEEN ISRAEL AND SYRIA WORKED OUT THROUGH US EMBASSIES IN TEL AVIV AND DAMASCUS.

2. AHRAM APRIL 15 DEALS WITH LEBANESE SITUATION FROM ANOTHER TACK, ALTHOUGH ANTI-SYRIAN SLANT OF ARTICLE IDENTICAL WITH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AKHBAR APPROACH. AHRAM, CITING FU'AD MATAR AND NEWS AGENCIES

FROM BEIRUT, REVEALS GENERAL STRIKE PROEVIOUS DAY IN SIDON
STAGED BY PLO AND LEBANESE LEFTIST ANTI-SYRIAN FORCES.
ARTICLE STATES THAT OVER 3,000 DEMONSTRATERS MARCHED THROUGH
SIDON STREETS AND THAT ALL BUSINESSES CLOSED OUT OF RESPECT
FOR STRIKERS. AHRAM ARTICLE ALSO CARRIES ITEM QUOTING
"DIPLOMATIC SOURCES IN BEIRUT" STATING THAT SOVIETS
HAVE INFORMED SYRIAN PRESIDENT ASAS THAT THERE LIMIT
TO SYRIAN INTERVENTION IN LEBANON AND SRYIANS SHOULD RESTRAIN
THEMSELVES RHATHER THAN LET SITUATIONGET OUT OF HAND.

3. COMMENT: GOE WATCHING WITH ANXIETY SYRIAN TROOPS IN BEKAA
VALLEY AND FUTURE SYRIAN ACTIONS UNCLEAR BOTH TO GOE AND TO
LOCAL DAILIES. LOCAL PRESS ALSO CARRIES ITEM THAT IRAQI PERMREP TO
ARAB LEAGUE HAS ASKED AL SEC GEN RIAD FOR EMERGENCY MEETING OF
AL COUNCIL. NO EGYPTIAN PRESS COMMENT APPEARS CONCERNING
IRAQI REQUEST.
EILTS

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